

# SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 9, Number 3

March 1993

## President's Prose

SCCARA has three events coming up soon. First, our April meeting will be *Old Timer's night* to be held at a local restaurant. The second is running the Foothill electronic flea market May 8. We will run the refreshment stand and will need volunteers. Lou, WA6QYS, will be in charge again. The third is Field Day, to be held at Mt Madonna Park on the June 27-28 weekend. Doug, WN6U will be in charge again.

I was quite encouraged by the interest shown by the members regarding our meeting place and how to pay for it. Mike K8ERL, will examine possible alternate sites. The board discussed how to pay for the increased costs if we choose to remain at the United Way.

Stan, WA6VJY, is working on the financial report for last year; it will be included with the membership roster mailing. The bottom line is that about \$1925 more was spent than received.

73, Don KC6WMM



## Good and Welfare

Ed Rawlinson WD6CHD has been happily married to the same lovely lady, Natalie, for more than 50 years. At this writing, Natalie is in the hospital and quite seriously ill as a result of a stroke followed by pneumonia. All SCCARA members wish Ed to know that our thoughts are with him in this very trying time.

73, EL K6ZYY

## Calendar

- 3/8 SCCARA General Meeting
- 3/13 Foothill Flea Market
- 3/22 SCCARA Board Meeting (San Jose Red Cross--all are welcome)
- 4/10 Foothill Flea Market

### Next General Meeting

- Day: Monday, March 8, 1993  
Time: 7:30 - 9:30 PM  
Place: United Way Building  
1922 The Alameda, San Jose.  
Agenda: Roger Gathers N6GRF, will talk about VHF/UHF Log Periodic Antennas and related topics.

The United Way Building is about one mile South West from the San Jose Air Port. From I-880: take the Alameda turn-off going South, turn left on McKendrie (1/2 block South of the freeway). From the South: go North on the Alameda, turn right on McKendrie (1/2 block past Heading).

As soon as you turn onto McKendrie (heading East), turn right into the parking lot just behind the small church on the corner. It's best to park at the far end of the parking lot. The entrance is up the steps at the South East corner of the building. There is wheelchair access at another door at the North East corner, but for security reasons, only one door is open at a time--someone will have to notify the guard if you need wheelchair access. Also, try not to be too late--the doors may be closed with nobody around to let you in.

The San Jose Red Cross is located at the East end of McKendrie, across the I-880 freeway (South) from the San Jose Air Port. From I-880: take the Colman turn-off, head South, turn left (East) at the first road--that's McKendrie. From the South, go North on Colman, just past Heading turn right (East) on McKendrie.

# Treasurer's Treatise

At the January Board meeting Mike KB6LCJ, Treasurer, reported the following account status:

Checking	\$1222.83
Savings	\$6782.91
Repeater Fund	\$3770.17
Convention Fund	\$4634.34

We just about broke even in January with \$412.00 incoming and \$411.59 outgoing.

Because of the increase in cost for meeting at the United Way building and the increase in costs to produce the SCCARA-GRAM, the Board will consider raising the annual dues next year.

---

The current status of our accounts is as follows:

Checking	\$1360
Savings	\$6783
Repeater Fund	\$3014
Convention Fund	\$4634

Yes the club is solvent, but keep in mind that we are living in the nineties and costs are escalating. I will detail the various areas throughout the year. This month I will cover our room rental expense.

Several years ago we did not have to pay for a meeting room. Since I have been a member, we have met at the San Jose City Hall, Agnews, Red Cross, Union High School District Office, County Building on Berger Drive and the United Way. As you can see, we have moved around a bit in the last six years! We moved from several of the meeting places due to their decision to charge us. Each time we moved it had a detrimental effect on our membership. Our current location is the United Way. We have paid \$10 per hour for a nice room with many amenities. The rent was very low due to a grant which the United Way had for non-profit groups. The grant has ended and our rent is going up to \$25 per hour (which turns out

to be closer to the actual cost). That is \$75 per month or \$900 per year. There was much discussion at our last meeting. For the most part, people felt we should stay. Mike K8ERL has offered to look into alternate locations and will give a report at the next meeting.

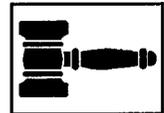
Next month, I will talk about our phone expenses.

73, Mike KB6LCJ, Treasurer

---

## Moved and Seconded

January Board Meeting



Ed Rawlinson WD6CHD's wife is in the hospital suffering from a stroke. The Board voted to purchase and send flowers to Ed and his wife.

A while back, the Board voted to purchase a bar code reader to upgrade the security lock on the radio room at the Red Cross. Scott KB6UOO is handling all the details. He reported that the bar code reader is available now but will cost more than originally thought. The Board voted to authorize an additional \$50 to cover the actual cost.

Despite the increase in cost to meet at the United Way, the Board voted to continue meeting there while alternatives are investigated.

Everyone seemed to enjoy our last spaghetti-feed meeting. The Board voted to do it again for the April meeting.

The Board approved the purchase of a new commercial grade antenna and controller for our 70 cm repeater.

### February General Meeting

Trish WA6UBE proposed we continue to meet at the United Way and charge attending members \$2 each per meeting to cover the costs. This motion was tabled until the next meeting. In the mean time, alternate meeting places are to be investigated.

## February Board Meeting

The Board discussed the possibility of charging an entrance fee for general meetings as Trish suggested. It was pointed out that the majority of members seemed to like meeting at the United Way Building even though it might cost more. The consensus of the Board was that we should encourage members and visitors to attend meetings, any kind of "entrance fee" would be counterproductive.

---

## Thank You

I would like to thank Randy Roberts for his informative talk about Spread Spectrum.



Randy Roberts KC6YJY, Feb. meeting

The March meeting will feature Roger Gathers N6GRF. Roger will talk about VHF/UHF Log Periodic Antennas and related topics. See you there.

73 - Harold KK6ZE, V.P.

---

Ed Hajny W6ACW, owner of Books, Etc. in Sunnyvale, has donated a VHS tape by the A.R.R.L. entitled *Ham Radio In Space* to the club. This ½ hour tape shows some of the amateur activities involving satellites and the Shuttle.

Thanks Ed!



## New Members

SCCARA would like to welcome these new amateurs to the club:



Derek KD6RXI



Mike 6KD6MZL

And our latest new member: Harvey Sam KD6PAB.

If you guys have any questions, ideas, or comments about SCCARA or any activities, please don't hesitate to ask. There is a list of club "higher-ups" on the back of each SCCARA-GRAM.

## Meeting Minutes

General Meeting held January 11, 1993

Harold KK6ZE called the meeting to order at 1930 hours. He welcomed all of those present. Self introductions followed as is the custom.

The first speaker was Brad Wyatt K6WR, Vice Director ARRL Pacific Division. He made several comments about the FCC. One comment was that there are no fines, but Notice of Apparent Liability, which means that the monetary assessments are large and it is worth the effort to collect them. He also mentioned that with the new administration there will be changes in the FCC Commissioners. Because of the holidays, there is a backlog in issuing licenses of from 12 to 14 weeks. There is a proposal in congress to auction off surplus military frequencies. Brad said no one

knew what the outcome of this would be if it ever happens. There is a proposal to change the name of the American Radio Relay League to the American Amateur Radio League. He also mentioned that the November 1992 issue of QST has an article about HF Packet. There is also a proposal to change the business rule (Section 97.113).

The second speaker was Winston Adcock KB6OQF, A member of the California Rescue Dog Association (CARDA). Winston talked about the use of Ham radio in rescue work and how dogs tracked a person. There are two types of tracking, trail and air scent. The presentation was very interesting as well as informative. He discussed the various types of dogs used, how they are trained, and some of the rescues he has been involved with.

Treasurer's report was presented and accepted.

Repeater committee will meet at the Red Cross building on Thursday Jan. 14, 1993.

SCCARA will conduct a class at the City of Santa Clara Adult Education Center starting February 25, 1993. The Class will be for the Tech. Class license. The Code Class will continue to meet on Thursdays.

Wally reports that the Ten Meter net has been quiet over the holidays.

Field day will soon be here and we should start thinking about it now.

SCCARA will host the May Foothill Flea Market.

### **General Meeting held February 22, 1993**

President Don KC6WMM open the meeting. Self introductions followed as is the custom.

Wally announced that the 10 meter net is held every Thursday at 8:00 P.M. at 28.385 MHz and that the attendance has been down the last few meetings.

Joe announced that the Monday night 2 meter net is doing just fine.

Lou WA6QYS, the flea market chairman, announced that the first flea market will be held

the second Saturday in March.

Doug WN6U is the field day chairman.

Trish WA6UBE of the repeater committee announced that the PL on the 2 meter repeater has been changed to 114.8. She also said that over the weekend, about 18 people toured the city vault where the repeaters will be located.

Our guest speaker was Randy Roberts KC6YJY, Editor of Spread Spectrum. He spoke about Spread Spectrum as an alternative to other wireless technologies. He mentioned how it is used in security because it cannot be decoded and how it could be used to keep track of people. Randy also mentioned that hams have used it on the 440 band. He explained a little bit of how it works. The presentation was very interesting and it sounds like Spread Spectrum could become a unique tool for hams if enough people get into it.

#### **Ham Class:**

Three people have signed up so far.

#### **Health and welfare:**

Requested information or announcements for the SCCARA-GRAM.

#### **Miscellaneous items:**

1. SCCARA may be looking for a new meeting place since the rental rates for the United Way Building have gone up.

2. Trish WA6UBE, made a motion that the club collect \$2.00 from each member to cover the cost of the meeting place. The motion was seconded. There was another motion to table the discussion. This motion passed and Trish's motion was tabled.

Meeting adjourned

Lloyd KD6FJI, Secretary

---

# To due or due not

SCCARA has traditionally posted the call signs of those who have not paid their dues as a "last chance" reminder. Dues are due on 01/01/93 and if not received by the printing of the April newsletter, you will be dropped! We have 117 people who have paid their dues and 66 who have not. We need you in SCCARA and hope that you will make the decision to remain a member and continue receiving the SCCARA-GRAM.

If I made a mistake and you have actually paid, please give me a call and we'll get it straightened out.

73, Mike KB6LCJ, Treasurer

---

## K. GILBERT

KD6ABI  
KA6ACK  
WB7AOK  
KD6AVT  
KD6BQE  
KA6CVN  
AA6CZ  
N6DDG  
KB6DLB  
KD6EFL  
K6EJF  
KB6ETA  
KC6FGX  
KD6FTC  
KD6FTJ  
KD6HJC  
KM6ID  
KA6IED  
KA6IWK  
KN6K  
W6LDO  
AE6M  
K6MOB  
KK6MX  
KC6MYH  
N6NOY  
KA6OEC

## S. HORTON

KC6PKJ  
KC6PLG  
KC6PLO  
N6PMM  
N6RUY  
KC6SAU  
KA6SIQ  
KC6SPM  
KC6SXH  
WA6TJP  
KB6UOO  
KC6VHO  
N6VNB  
KC6VQA  
N6VSM  
N6VUW  
N6VYI  
KC6WAR  
WA6WAT  
KC6WCP  
AA6WF  
N6WIJ  
WB6WKM  
N6XGW  
W6YEM  
N6YFS  
WA6YRU

AA6OF  
K6OKM  
N7OLQ  
WA7OVU  
N6PCR

N6ZJL  
N6ZPC  
KC6ZQA  
W6ZRJ  
KB6ZV

---

## Repeater Report

The PL frequency of the 2 meter repeater has been changed to 114.8 Hz. If we need to switch the repeater to PL access, 114.8 Hz is the tone needed. This should end our interference problem with Manteca repeater. It turns out they were sanctioned *with* 100 Hz, we were sanctioned with no specified PL. Their repeater is inverted from ours and uses 100.0 Hz PL (which we were transmitting for those people who use tone squelch in their rigs). 30 watts effective radiated power was enough to bring up their repeater in Manteca and time it out during long conversations here. Our repeater is at about 400 feet elevation and has a roughly 3000 foot ridge right behind it, but this wasn't enough to shield us from their receiver. Changing our transmitted PL tone seems to have done the trick. We will continue to monitor the situation and report any problems if they arise.

We still need some help with patching a hole in the equipment shelter on the roof of the Alexian Brothers' Hospital and also with the installation of a proper wall penetrator (a "wall-thru") for the 440 repeater antenna feed line. If you wish to help, contact either Trish WA6UBE or myself (WA6VJY).

The Club now has a new RC96 controller for our 440 repeater! The committee recommended the purchase of an ACC RC-96 controller to the Board of Directors at the January board meeting. The recommendation was approved and the purchase made. The controller was handed over to the city radio maintenance technicians to be integrated with the MSF-5000 UHF repeater the City has reserved for our use.

I will report progress in future columns on the integration of the system and on the installation

at the site of the new repeater. Suggestions as to what we might do with the existing 440 repeater and controller are requested. If you have any ideas for us to consider, pass them along to the committee. We might sell the whole mess, make a "backup" repeater system, or what have you.

That's about all for now. See you at the next meeting.

73, Stan WA6VJY, repeater chairman

---

## News Letter Notes

### DEAD-LINE



I am going to make an sincere effort to get the SCCARA-GRAM news letter ready in time for everyone to receive it well before the each general meeting. In order for this to work, please try to have all articles and ads for any given issue in my hands no later than the prior board meeting.

You can send articles to me via packet--my home BBS is N0ARY, U.S. mail, or just hand them to me at any meeting. Articles may be submitted on disk in standard ASCII text or in WordPerfect 5.1 format. I can insert computer images if they are in GIF, TIFF, or WordPerfect image format. Ordinary photographs can be printed as well if they are half-tones, contact the club photographer, Bob KB6OHO for more information on that.

I'll run everything through a spelling checker, but don't expect me to do a lot of work on poorly written articles. As far as English goes, I'm not too much better than Dan Quail! :)

### FEATURES



I would like to have a section here called "*FEEDBACK*" (or "*Member Mumbblings*" perhaps?) in which members can make comments or reply to previous comments, like a bulletin board.

Have you discovered some new antenna trick you'd like to share? Would you like to know if anyone is having the same problem you are having with such-'n-such a rig? Do you have any suggestions or comments about something the club is doing that it shouldn't, not doing that it should, or could be doing if it would? Perhaps you'd just like to get something off your chest. Send it in! I'll put it in the SCCARA-GRAM. This should be fun, informative, and would definitely liven up our news letter!

Any ideas or comments regarding the SCCARA-GRAM itself are also welcome.

73, Gary WB6YRU

---

## Flea Market

Don't forget, the May flea market will be sponsored by SCCARA. As before, there will not be a SCCARA booth at this one. Things went pretty well last year because we had many volunteers. Again, Lou WA6QYS will lead this effort. If you have nothing important planned for May 8<sup>th</sup>, please tell Lou you would like to help.

The first electronic flea market of the year at Foothill College will be on Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds made at these monthly flea markets go to the repeater fund. There are some significant projects coming up for our repeaters, so this is important. We have stuff to sell now, but donations are always welcome.

Aside from donations, we need help transporting stuff to the flea market early Saturday morning and back to our locker early that afternoon. We also need help selling the merchandise. SCCARA will pay all fees and buy lunch for the volunteers. Don KC6WMM helped quite a bit last year, but since he is busy now with his presidential duties, we will need others to help out--the more the merrier! If you would like to get involved, please contact me.

73, Gary WB6YRU

## **ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION UPDATE, MARCH 1993**

by **Charles P. McConnell, W6DPD, Director ARRL Pacific Division.** 1658 W. Mesa Ave. Fresno, CA 93711-1944. 209-431-2038. Packet @ N6ZGY

**Want to become a ham: Call 1-800-32NEWHAM (1-800-326-3942).**

**AMATEUR LICENSE NUMBERS.** As of December 31, 1992, there were 587,657 Amateur operators. By including Club, Mil Rec., and RACES licenses, the grand total is 590,088. In December of 1990, the number of Amateurs reached 500,000. The Technician Class license continues to be the entry level license of choice. Thanks to the those teaching classes and to the Volunteer Examiners for their good work in helping to increase the numbers of Amateurs.

**GOVERNMENT SPECTRUM BILL.** Senator Inouye has introduced S. 335, The Emerging Telecommunications Technology Act of 1993 on February 4, 1993. This bill is a revised version of S. 218 which was not acted upon in the last Congress. The ARRL suggested six possible amendments to S. 218 to mitigate the effect of releasing government frequencies for private use, some of which Radio Amateurs occupy on a shared, secondary, non-interference basis. Five of the six amendments were incorporated into S. 335. Please read the articles on S. 335 in the Amateur press.

**STA EXTENDED.** The FCC has granted a final extension of the ARRL's Special Temporary Authorization for certain Amateurs to use automatic control of digital communications below 30 MHz. Of February 1, 1993 the ARRL filed a Petition for Rulemaking proposing permanent rules for operation of Amateur stations using data emissions on HF frequencies under automatic control. Since rule making proceedings can take a significant amount of time, the ARRL requested and FCC granted this final extension of the STA to carry through until the consideration of the new rules has been considered by the FCC.

**MIR SPACE STATION.** New operators on the MIR space station will use the call sign R2MIR on voice and R2MIR-1 on packet. The frequency is 145.55 MHz simplex.

**H. H. BEVERAGE, EX W2BML, A SILENT KEY.** Harold H. Beverage, ex W2BML, died January 27 in Stony Brook, New York. He was 99 years old. Although no an active ham since the 1920s, his name is immortalized as the inventor of the Beverage Receiving Antenna ( or as he called it, The AAVE Antenna). It was developed in 1917 to enhance communications between the U.S. and Europe during the first World War, and was described in *QST* in November, 1922. He received more than 40 patents. A biography of Beverage, *GENIUS AT RIVERHEAD*, was written by Alberta I. Wallen and published in 1988.

**HAM PLEADS GUILTY.** Jorge Mestre, NS3K, of Fairfax, VA, pled guilty to knowingly and willfully communicating a false distress signal, resulting in the U.S., Coast Guard launching a major search and rescue operation on August 7, 1992. Mestre will surrender his FCC Amateur Radio License, dispose of his Amateur Radio equipment within 60 days, and make immediate restitution of \$50,000 to the U.S. Coast Guard. Mestre could receive up to six years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$250,000. The FCC used direction finding data, detailed signal analysis of the transmissions, and other information to identify Mestre's station as the source of the false distress messages. Mestre is also suspected of having been involved in at least three additional false distress cases in the last few years.



In Alum Rock Park, the radio installation and its antenna complex are perched on Eagle Rock, about 750 ft. above the valley floor.



The vault sits next to the tower. The SCCARA antennas will be located atop the pole closest to the foreground (center) in this view.



Mike KB6LCJ, surveys the valley as seen by the antennas.



Club members inspect the vault that our repeater will be sharing with other equipment. This room houses six public safety repeaters and three microwave receivers of the city (which connect base stations to com-center), plus misc. county gear.



Domestics before electronics: Jerry KB6ICS, Stan WA6VJY, and Trish WA6UBE sweep up the area where the SCCARA repeater equipment will be installed later this spring.

# **A.R.R.L. Pacific Division Happenings**

1. LIVERMORE SWAP MEET. 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, CA. 7 AM to Noon, all year. Contact N7TVE for information.
2. FOOTHILL SWAP MEET. 2nd Saturday, March-September. Foothill College, Los Altos CA.
3. INTERNATIONAL DX CONVENTION. April 16-18, 1993. Holiday Inn, Visalia, CA. Contact Jim Knochenhauer, K6ITL, for information.
4. HANFORD SWAP MEET. March 27, 1993. Hanford Fraternal Hall. Talk-in on 147.24 MHz. Kings ARC. Call Jeff, N6OZG, 209-582-0972 for information.
5. FRESNO HAMFEST. SWAP MEET. May 1, 1993. Riverland. Highway 99 just south of the Kings River at Kingsburg. Contact the Fresno ARC. P.O. Box 783, Fresno CA 93712 or call 209-486-5377 for information. Talk-in on 146.94 or 223.94 MHz.
6. WEST COAST VHF/UHF CONFERENCE. May 21-23, 1993. Holiday Inn on the Beach, Ventura CA.
7. ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION. August 13-15, 1993 in Huntsville, Alabama.
8. ARRL Southwestern Division Convention. September 17-19, 1993. Holiday Inn on the Beach in Ventura CA.
9. PACIFICON '93. ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION CONVENTION. October 22-24, 1993 in Concord sponsored by the Mt. Diablo ARC. Call the Pacificon Hotline 510-932-6125 for information.

**OFFICERS and DIRECTORS**

President	Don Hayden, KC6WMM	867-4643
Vice President	Harold Welch, KK6ZE	578-3273
Secretary	Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI	225-6769
Treasurer	Mike Hastings, KB6LCJ	243-6745
Station Trustee	Doug Eaton, WN6U	377-3736
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
Director	Doug Eaton, WN6U	377-3736
Director	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
Director	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336

**STAFF**

Database	Joe Quirantes, WA6DXP	371-0959
Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
Facilities	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Mailman	Tony Sanchez, K6MOB	296-6676
Photographer	Bob Keller, KB6OHO	725-1034
Welfare	Ed Rawlinson, WD6CHD	264-2988

**COMMITTEES**

Repeater	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
Flea Market, Monthly	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
Flea Market, <i>OUR Time</i>	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
Field Day	Doug Eaton, WN6U	377-3736

**SCCARA REPEATERS**

SCCARA currently owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:

2 meter:	146.385 +
70 cm:	442.425 + PL 107.2

Phone patch capability is available with a small subscription fee. The two meter repeater is located in the Mt. Hamilton foothills, Alum Rock area. The 70 cm repeater is located at the Alexian Brothers Hospital, North of 280 and 101.

**SCCARA NETS**

Mondays at 1930, on our 2 meter repeater. Net control: Joe WA6DXP.

Thursdays at 2000, on 28.385 MHz USB. Net control: Wally KA6YMD.

Members and visitors alike are encouraged to join in on the SCCARA nets. Wally KA6YMD usually conducts the ten meter net from the SCCARA club station: W6UW, located at the San Jose Red Cross (just South from the San Jose Air Port).

**IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

SCCARA HOTLINE:	249-6909
ARRL CLASS HOTLINE:	971-1424
ARRL VEC HOTLINE:	984-8353



The SCCARA-GRAM is published monthly by the SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION. Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided the source is properly credited.

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

P.O. BOX 6  
San Jose, CA 95103

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
<b>PAID</b>
Permit # 3318
San Jose, CA

# Extra

More photos were submitted than were actually published.  
Just for fun, these extras weren't in the original SCCARA-GRAM:



Randy Roberts KC6YSY, Spread Spectrum talk (page 3)



The radio vault (page 8)  
(L to R): ?, Roy Metzger K6VIP, Wally Britten KA6YMD, Keith Butts KN6K, ?, ?